



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Ozark National Scenic Riverways

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Ozark National Scenic Riverways News Release

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Bill Black Serves as Interim Superintendent at Ozark National Scenic Riverways

Van Buren, MO – Bill Black, Superintendent at Fort Smith National Historic Site in Fort Smith, Arkansas, has been selected as the interim superintendent of Ozark National Scenic Riverways for 120 days beginning Tuesday, January 17th. “I’m eager to experience Ozark National Scenic Riverways and meet the park staff and partners who have a love and passion for its special resources. Listening to suggestions and concerns and conveying them to upper National Park Service management will be paramount during my tenure”, states Black.

Black began his National Park Service career as a seasonal Park Technician at Cumberland Gap National Historical Park in Kentucky followed by a season at Castillo de San Marcos National Monument in St. Augustine, Florida. His first permanent position was as a Park Ranger in law enforcement at Great Smoky Mountains National Park in Tennessee. He then went on to become the Administrative Officer at Chickasaw National Recreation Area in Oklahoma and a few years later was promoted into the Administrative Officer and Assistant Superintendent role at Isle Royale National Park in Michigan. Black’s career also included working for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Florida and Alabama as an Assistant Wildlife Refuge Manager. He has been Fort Smith’s superintendent since January 1992 where he led the park through major rehabilitation including the planning and development of its visitor center and exhibits.

Black has been successful in developing, improving and maintaining positive cooperative relationships with local, state and other federal agencies, Native American tribal governments, land owners and interest groups. His last acting assignment was in Las Vegas as the director of one of the

largest multi-agency partnerships in the country dealing with both federal agencies and numerous interest and support groups in southern Nevada.

An Indiana native, Black graduated from Purdue University with a degree in Wildlife Management. Black is married to Judi, a first grade teacher with the Fort Smith Public Schools. They have a grown son and daughter.



Ozark National Scenic Riverways Interim Superintendent Bill Black

Ozark National Scenic Riverways preserves the free-flowing Current and Jacks Fork Rivers, the surrounding natural resources, and the unique cultural heritage of the Ozark people.

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